

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
MACON DIVISION**

LEVI ARTHUR FEDD,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
VS.	:	
	:	CIVIL No: 5:15-CV-0104-MTT-CHW
Doctor ALMEDOM, et al.,	:	
	:	PROCEEDINGS UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983
Defendants	:	BEFORE THE U. S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

ORDER

Plaintiff Levi Arthur Fedd, an inmate currently confined at Dooly State Prison in Unadilla, Georgia, has filed a *pro se* civil rights complaint under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and also seeks to proceed in this case without prepayment of the Court's \$350.00 filing fee pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). For those reasons stated herein, Plaintiff's Motion to Proceed *in forma pauperis* (ECF No. 2, 7) is **GRANTED**. After conducting a thorough review of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint (ECF No. 1, 6), as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a), the undersigned also finds Plaintiff's allegations sufficient to allow claims against Defendants **Almedom, Sachdeva, Starling, Lawson, and Coftey** to go forward for further factual development. It is **RECOMMENDED**, however, that Plaintiff's claims against James Thompson be **DISMISSED** without prejudice, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), for failure to state a claim.

I. Motion to Proceed *in forma pauperis*

Plaintiff has filed a Motion to Proceed *in forma pauperis*. Based on his

submissions, the undersigned finds that Plaintiff is currently unable to pre-pay the Court's \$350.00 filing fee. His Motion is thus **GRANTED**. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b). This does not mean that the filing fee is waived. Plaintiff is still obligated to pay the full balance of the filing fee using the payment plan described in § 1915(b) and ordered herein. For this reason, the Clerk of Court is **DIRECTED** to send a copy of this Order to the warden or business manager of the facility in which Plaintiff is currently confined.

II. Preliminary Review

A. Standard of Review

Because Plaintiff is a prisoner “seeking redress from a governmental entity or [an] officer or employee of a governmental entity,” this Court is required to conduct a preliminary screening of his complaint. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). In so doing, the district court must accept all factual allegations in the complaint as true. *Brown v. Johnson*, 387 F.3d 1344, 1347 (11th Cir. 2004). *Pro se* pleadings are also “held to a less stringent standard than pleadings drafted by attorneys” and are “liberally construed” by the court. *Tannenbaum v. United States*, 148 F.3d 1262, 1263 (11th Cir. 1998).

A *pro se* pleading is, nonetheless, subject to dismissal prior to service if the court finds that the complaint, when construed liberally and viewed in the light most favorable to the plaintiff, fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1). To state a claim, a complaint must include “enough factual matter (taken as true)” to “give the defendant fair notice of what the . . . claim is and the grounds upon which it rests[.]” *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555-56(2007). The plaintiff must also allege sufficient facts to “raise the right to relief above the speculative

level” and create “a reasonable expectation” that discovery will reveal evidence to prove a claim. *Id.* “Threadbare recitals of the elements of cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements do not suffice.” *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 663 (2009).

B. Plaintiff’s Complaint

The present action arises out of Plaintiff’s confinement at Dooly State Prison. Plaintiff’s Amended Complaint (ECF No. 1, 7), when construed liberally and read in his favor, alleges that Plaintiff was denied medical treatment for a “hold” (presumably a hole, wound, or open sore) in his leg despite the fact that Defendants were personally aware of his injury, knew that “feve[r] was com[ing] out of it [all of] the time,” and knew that Plaintiff’s pain was so great that he could not sleep, he required a cane to walk, and he was unable to walk or stand for long periods. Plaintiff further alleges that, because of Defendants’ failure to provide him treatment, he suffered great pain for a year and eventually required surgery on his leg.

The undersigned finds that these allegations are sufficient to allow Plaintiff to go forward with Eighth Amendment claims against Defendants **Almedom, Sachdeva, Starling, Lawson, and Coftey**. It is thus **ORDERED** that service be made on these defendants and that they file an Answer, or such other response as may be appropriate under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, 28 U.S.C. § 1915, and the Prison Litigation Reform Act. Defendants are also reminded of the duty to avoid unnecessary service expenses and the possible imposition of expenses for failure to waive service.

Plaintiff, however, failed to make any allegations against Defendant James Thompson in his Amended Statement of Claims. (ECF No. 6) A complaint fails to state a

claim against a named defendant when it fails to allege facts specifically associating that defendant with any alleged constitutional violation. *See Douglas v. Yates*, 535 F.3d 1316, 1322 (11th Cir. 2008). It is accordingly **RECOMMENDED** that Plaintiff's claims against **James Thompson** be **DISMISSED without prejudice**, under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), for failure to state a claim.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1), the parties may serve and file written objections to the recommendations herein with the Honorable Marc T. Treadwell, United States District Judge, **WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS** after being served with a copy of this Recommendation. The parties may seek an extension of time in which to file written objections, provided a request for an extension is filed prior to the deadline for filing written objections. Failure to object in accordance with the provisions of § 636(b)(1) waives the right to challenge on appeal the district judge's order based on factual and legal conclusions to which no objection was timely made. *See* 11th Cir. R. 3-1.

DUTY TO ADVISE OF ADDRESS CHANGE

During this action, all parties shall at all times keep the Clerk of this Court and all opposing attorneys and/or parties advised of their current address. Failure to promptly advise the Clerk of any change of address may result in the dismissal of a party's pleadings.

DUTY TO PROSECUTE ACTION

Plaintiff must diligently prosecute his Complaint or face the possibility that it will be dismissed under Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for failure to prosecute. Defendants are advised that they are expected to diligently defend all

allegations made against them and to file timely dispositive motions as hereinafter directed. This matter will be set down for trial when the Court determines that discovery has been completed and that all motions have been disposed of or the time for filing dispositive motions has passed.

FILING AND SERVICE OF MOTIONS, PLEADINGS, AND CORRESPONDENCE

It is the responsibility of each party to file original motions, pleadings, and correspondence with the Clerk of Court. A party need not serve the opposing party by mail if the opposing party is represented by counsel. In such cases, any motions, pleadings, or correspondence shall be served electronically at the time of filing with the Court. If any party is not represented by counsel, however, it is the responsibility of each opposing party to serve copies of all motions, pleadings, and correspondence upon the unrepresented party and to attach to said original motions, pleadings, and correspondence filed with the Clerk of Court a certificate of service indicating who has been served and where (i.e., at what address), when service was made, and how service was accomplished (i.e., by U.S. Mail, by personal service, etc.).

DISCOVERY

Plaintiff shall not commence discovery until an answer or dispositive motion has been filed on behalf of Defendants from whom discovery is sought by Plaintiff. Defendants shall not commence discovery until such time as an answer or dispositive motion has been filed. Once an answer or dispositive motion has been filed, the parties are authorized to seek discovery from one another as provided in the Federal Rules of Civil

Procedure. Plaintiff's deposition may be taken at any time during the time period hereinafter set out, provided that prior arrangements are made with his custodian. Plaintiff is hereby advised that failure to submit to a deposition may result in the dismissal of his lawsuit under Fed. R. Civ. P. 37 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that discovery (including depositions and the service of written discovery requests) shall be completed within 90 days of the date of filing of an answer or dispositive motion by Defendants (whichever comes first) unless an extension is otherwise granted by the Court upon a showing of good cause therefor or a protective order is sought by Defendants and granted by the Court. This 90-day period shall run separately as to each Defendant beginning on the date of filing of each Defendant's answer or dispositive motion (whichever comes first). The scheduling of a trial may be advanced upon notification from the parties that no further discovery is contemplated or that discovery has been completed prior to the deadline.

Discovery materials shall not be filed with the Clerk of Court. No party shall be required to respond to any discovery not directed to him or served upon him by the opposing counsel/party. The undersigned incorporates herein those parts of the Local Rules imposing the following limitations on discovery: except with written permission of the Court first obtained, INTERROGATORIES may not exceed TWENTY-FIVE (25) to each party, REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND THINGS under Rule 34 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure may not exceed TEN (10) requests to each party, and REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS under Rule 36 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure may not exceed FIFTEEN (15) requests to each party. No party is required to

respond to any request which exceed these limitations.

REQUESTS FOR DISMISSAL AND/OR JUDGMENT

Dismissal of this action or requests for judgment will not be considered by the Court in the absence of a separate motion therefor accompanied by a brief/memorandum of law citing supporting authorities. Dispositive motions should be filed at the earliest time possible, but in any event no later than one hundred-twenty (120) days from when the discovery period begins.

DIRECTIONS TO CUSTODIAN OF PLAINTIFF

Following the payment of the required initial partial filing fee or the waiving of the payment of same, the Warden of the institution wherein Plaintiff is incarcerated, or the Sheriff of any county wherein he is held in custody, and any successor custodians, shall each month cause to be remitted to the Clerk of this court twenty percent (20%) of the preceding month's income credited to Plaintiff's account at said institution until the \$350.00 filing fee has been paid in full. In accordance with provisions of the Prison Litigation Reform Act, Plaintiff's custodian is hereby authorized to forward payments from the prisoner's account to the Clerk of Court each month until the filing fee is paid in full, provided the amount in the account exceeds \$10.00. It is **ORDERED** that collection of monthly payments from Plaintiff's trust fund account shall continue until the entire \$350.00 has been collected, notwithstanding the dismissal of Plaintiff's lawsuit or the granting of judgment against him prior to the collection of the full filing fee.

PLAINTIFF'S OBLIGATION TO PAY FILING FEE

Pursuant to provisions of the Prison Litigation Reform Act, in the event Plaintiff is

hereafter released from the custody of the State of Georgia or any county thereof, he shall remain obligated to pay any balance due on the filing fee in this proceeding until said amount has been paid in full; Plaintiff shall continue to remit monthly payments as required by the Prison Litigation Reform Act. Collection from Plaintiff of any balance due on the filing fee by any means permitted by law is hereby authorized in the event Plaintiff is released from custody and fails to remit payments. In addition, Plaintiff's Complaint is subject to dismissal if he has the ability to make monthly payments and fails to do so.

SO ORDERED, this 2nd day of June, 2015.

s/ Charles H. Weigle
Charles H. Weigle
United States Magistrate Judge